

## HERE AND THERE

after being placed on a standby basis after the war; modernization of existing types will be carried out at this plant.

## Hong Kong Plans

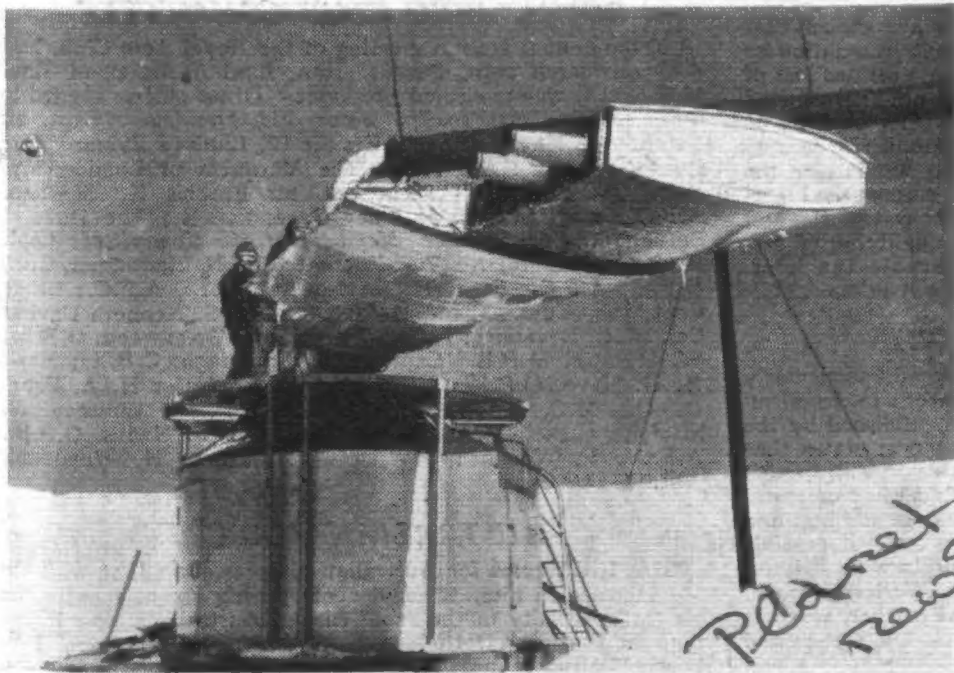
THE Hong Kong Government estimates for the coming year include a sum of £250,000 for starting work on a new airfield as soon as a suitable site has been found. This would represent only a fraction of the final cost of such an undertaking, and the question of financing the undertaking is said to be under discussion with the U.K. Government.

## Patent Action

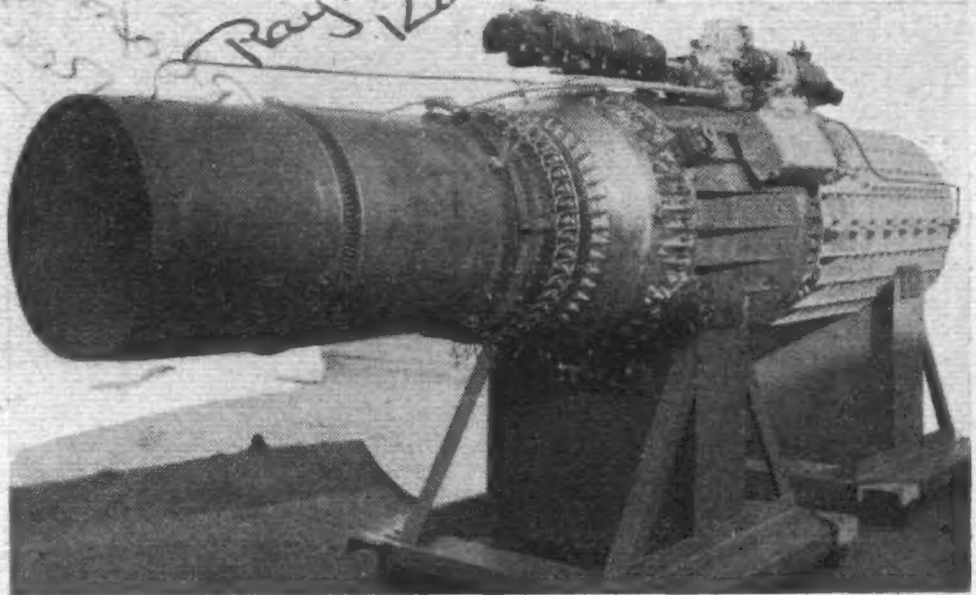
THE Glacier Metal Company, Ltd., who were recently involved in a High Court action for alleged infringement of a patent relating to thin wall bearings, have had the decision given in their favour. The plaintiffs were the Cleveland Graphite Bronze Co., and Vandervell Products, Ltd. Giving judgment on March 24 Mr. Justice Wynn-Parry held that the patent in question was invalid by reason of a disclosure made in a journal available to the public in this country before the date of the Letters Patent. Consideration of the form of order to be made was left over until April 6th.

## Air Mail Costs

THE Postmaster-General, in reply to a question in Parliament recently, stated that the airmail revenue for the fiscal year 1946-7 amounted to £6,097,000. The Post Office handling costs were estimated at £991,000. During the year in question sums of £147,000 and £188,000 were paid to B.E.A. and B.S.A.A. respectively, while under a war-time agreement then in force, £3,983,000 was paid to the M.C.A. for mails conveyed by B.O.A.C., B.E.A. and Transport Command. He was unable to give details of how this latter sum was apportioned.



REAPING THE WHIRLWIND: On behalf of the U.S. Air Forces the General Electric concern is undertaking, with the aid of the special rig shown, the development of components for ambitious jet-propelled helicopters. The pit containing this impressive apparatus is 150ft in diameter and 13ft deep.



NOBODY'S BABY: The outcome of a 1941 Army Air Force contract given to the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation and designed by Nathan C. Price, but later handed over to Menasco, the Lockheed-Menasco L-4000 (XJ-37) has recently been given high priority and passed on to the Wright Aeronautical Corporation of Wood-Ridge for more rapid testing and development.

## News in Brief

Sir George Beharrell, chairman of Dunlops, returned from his visit to the Australian Dunlop Company on the *Stratheden* on March 30.

The Afghan Air Force has ordered 12 Ansons complete with six spare Armstrong Siddeley Cheetah engines at a total cost of nearly £250,000. Delivery is expected to be completed this year.

One cruiser and three light aircraft carriers of the Colossus class of 14,000 tons standard displacement, at present nominally under construction, are to be laid up indefinitely. Precautions are being taken to preserve them while the work on these craft is suspended.

We regret that when announcing the appointment of Mr. C. E. Patterson, D.S.O., D.F.C., as air freight manager of Instone Lines, Ltd., we incorrectly referred to the company as Instone Air Lines, Ltd.

The Ghost-engined Vampire which recently recaptured for Britain the world's altitude record, was constructed for the Ministry of Supply and entered jointly by the Ministry and the D. H. Company.

Mr. B. W. Middleton has been appointed sales manager of Dunlop Clothing and Weatherproofs, Ltd. During the war Mr. Middleton was deputy director of clothing and textiles at the Ministry of Supply.

The French Air Force in North Africa has been reinforced recently and it is said that a major part of France's air strength is being concentrated in her North African territories as part of her "imperial strategy" recommended by General Juin, Resident General in Morocco.

Lord Portal of Hungerford, who was appointed Controller of Production, Atomic Energy, in the Ministry of Supply in March, 1946, has asked to be relieved of his duties. He has agreed to continue to act on a part-time basis and without salary for a further year.

B.E.A. have appointed Mr. Beverley S. Shenstone, F.R.Ae.S., A.F.I.Ae.S., M.A.Sc., to be chief engineer. He will supervise engineering standards throughout the Corporation, both in connection with the maintenance of aircraft already in use and with the development of new types.

In Northern Rhodesia recently military and civil aircraft successfully located a Magister which had been lost between Tabora and Kasama; the machine was found after it had force-landed on rough ground, wrecking the undercarriage. There were no casualties.